Project under Rail Infrastructure Development Company

3847. DR. VIJAY MALLYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways are aware that rail projects undertaken under K-RIDE are under different stages of consideration in the State and Central Government; and

(b) what is the current status of the proposal and by when Government's decision can be expected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTAT RAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Shareholder Agreement has been signed between Ministry of Railways and Government of Karnataka to operationalise K-RIDE in November, 2002. Four on-going sanctioned projects have been identified to be taken up under K-RIDE. The status of projects is as follows :

Hubli-Ankola New line	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition plans have been submitted to the State Government for part length (47.75 km). Earthwork and bridgework is in progress where land is made available.
Solapur-Gadag Gauge conversion	The work is bemg done in phases. Solapur-Hotgi (16 km) and Hotgi to Bijapur (94 km) has been completed. Earthwork, bridgework and ballast collection is in progress on rest of the section from Bijapur-Gadag.
Hassan-Mangalore Gauge conversion	Arsikere-Hassan-Saklespur has been completed and commissioned. Work is in progress in balance length. Track linking is in advanced stage between Kankanadi-Kabakaputtur. Section from Subramanya Road-Kabakaputtur is targeted for completion during 2003-04.
Gunatakal-Hospet Doubling	Final location survey has been completed. Bellary-Tornagallu (30 km) is being given priority, which is targeted for completion during 2003-04. Earthwork, minor and major bridges are in progress.

Solapur-Gadag Gauge conversion will be done on cost sharing basis between Ministry of Railways and Government of Karnataka. Hassan-Mangalore gauge conversion project will be done through Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) route. Cabinet Note for formation of SPV for Hassan-Mangalore gauge conversion project has been sent for consideration of CCEA (Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs).

Downsizing Tindharia workshop

3848. SHRITARINI KANTA ROY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that N.F. Railway has decided to downsize Tindharia workshop; and

(b) if so, the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir. (b) Does not arise.

Udhampur-Qazigund rail line

3849. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways propose to lay rail line between Udhampur and Qazigund and how much money has been provided from the Rail Budget for the years 2002-03; and 2003-04, year-wise; and

(b) by when the line between Udhampur and Qazigund would be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Udhampur-Qazigund rail line is a part of Udhampur-Qazigund-Baramulla rail line project which is targeted for completion by August 15, 2007. An outlay of Rs. 400 crore was provided for this project during 2002-03 and outlay proposed for the year 2003-04 is Rs. 500 crore.

Selection of CSIR's traditional knowledge database for pilot study

3850. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that CSIR's traditional knowledge database was selected for pilot study by 170 member States by Inter-Governmental Committee at WIPO;